

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

F BATTERY, 1ST BATTALION, 31ST FIELD ARTILLERY 6060 ROTHWELL STREET FORT SILL, OKLAHOMA 73503

ATSF-KJF

14 April 2013

Dear Family Member,

I am Captain Hunter Gallacher, the Commander of F Battery, 1st Battalion 31st Field Artillery, and your Soldier's Commander for Basic Combat Training. The Soldiers of F Battery are now almost half way through their training and have qualified with their M16/M4 rifle, completed several obstacle courses, and are starting to look forward to graduation. It will be a milestone in their military careers that I'm sure you are anticipating just as much as they are.

Over the next couple of weeks our training will get more intense as we begin to train on the use of basic Infantry tactics and finish with a weeklong Field Training Exercise (FTX). Every day these Soldiers gain more pride in their accomplishments and walk a little taller. By the time they graduate I'm sure you'll agree that these Soldiers have come a long way since you last saw them.

The final week here will be very busy with out-processing and graduation practice, so I have set aside time on the afternoons of May 16th and 17th, 2013 for you to spend with each other. Please stick to the prescribed timeline (enclosed), as the Soldiers will be occupied with many other activities during this week.

Our graduation ceremony will be held on May 17th, 2013 at 1000 at the Sheridan Theater located on Fort Sill. It must be noted that although we do our best to aid each and every individual to pass all training requirements, not everyone successfully completes our training program. In the event that your Soldier has encountered some obstacle to graduation, he or she will be advised to contact you as soon as that information is available. In the unfortunate event that your Soldier has not met the graduation requirements, he or she will not be allowed to graduate.

If I can be of assistance in any matter relating to BCT or if you have questions regarding the training, the military, or our family day/graduation please feel free to call or write. My telephone numbers are (580) 442-5095 or (580) 442-5026. Ask for myself, First Sergeant Wallace, or Lieutenant Alexander (please do not call collect). Our office is open 24 hours a day however we are frequently out in the field for training events. You can also reach me via Facebook (search: F Battery, 1st Battalion, 31st Field Artillery) or via email at hunter.gallacher@us.army.mil.

Finally, please keep this letter and bring it with you on your trip to Fort Sill, it will serve as a pass to gain entrance to the post. Thank you for the opportunity to train your new Soldier. They have joined a proud and strong tradition as part of the finest Army in the world. It has been an honor and a privilege to work with them. I look forward to either hearing from you or meeting you at graduation.

HUNTER A. GALLACHER

CPT, FA Commanding

F/1-31 Class # 35-13 Family Day and Graduation Timeline

Date	Event	Location	Time	Notes
16 May 2013	Soldier	Battery Drill Pad	1000-	Your Soldier will leave with a copy of
	Demonstrations &	Behind Building #6060	1100	the Safety Briefing covering the rules
	Family Day			they must follow during Family Day.
	Briefing			
16 May 2013	Family Day Pass	Family Discretion	1100-	Soldier Recall Formation on the Battery
		within the local area	2030	Drill Pad at 2030 Central Standard
		(must remain inside		Time.
		Comanche County,		
		Oklahoma)		
17 May 2013	Graduation	Sheridan Theater	1000-	Please arrive early; the ceremony will
		Building #3260	1100	begin promptly at 1000. The ceremony
				will end at 1100 at which time you will
				have a few minutes to take photos and
				visit with your Soldier outside the
				theatre. From there all 13/14 series*
				(Artillery and Air Defense Artillery) Soldiers will be transported back to the
				Battery for out processing. Soldiers who
		4		are travelling to AIT via provided
				Government Travel may depart for a
				local area pass directly from the theatre.
				local area pass directly from the theate.
17 May 2013	13 & 14 Series	13 Series* AIT	1130-	The 13/14 series Soldiers will return to
	In-processing AIT	(1-78 FA)	UTC	the Battery, change uniforms, and pick
				up their training records and baggage.
		14 Series** AIT	1	They will then be transported to their
		(30 th ADA)	1	AIT where they will begin in
		_ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~		processing. Expect a weekend pass to be
		Fort Sill, OK		issued from the AIT unit once your
		 	1100	Soldier completes in processing.
17 May 2013	Graduation Pass	Family Discretion	1130-	Soldier Recall Formation on the Battery
		within the local area	2030	Drill Pad at 2030 for Soldiers on
		(must remain inside		Graduation Day Pass, they will begin
		Comanche County,		boarding transportation that night for
		Oklahoma)		AIT.

For information on the local area see www.lawtonfortsillchamber.com.

^{*13} Series Soldiers are those who have chosen a Field Artillery Military Occupational Specialty
**14 Series Soldiers are those who have chosen an Air Defense Artillery Military Occupational Specialty

U.S. ARMY FORT SILL

FATC GRADUATION

BCT CLASS #35-13

FA-31 FA

TEMPORARY VEHICLE PASS

VALID:

16-17 MAY 2013

YOU MUST BE PREPARED TO PRESENT A PICTURE IDENTIFICATION CARD WHEN ENTERING THE INSTALLATION. PLEASE FOLD AND PLACE IN THE LOWER LEFT HAND SIDE OF THE DASH BOARD WHEN ENTERING THE GATE. HUNTER A. GALLACHER CPT, FA

Commanding



